

REMARKS

Claims 12-21 are pending; and of these, claims 12-13 have been amended, claim 15 has been canceled, and claims 16-21 have been withdrawn from consideration, thus leaving claims 12-14 to be examined. Reconsideration of the instant application is respectfully requested in view of this Paper.

The Examiner has rejected claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, "as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps." Specifically, the Examiner has asserted that, "[t]he omitted steps are: the act of the verification sheet being available when the recipient receives the package as there is no disclosure in the claims of whether it is sent on the package or shipped separately." The Examiner has acknowledged that claim 15 clarifies claims 12 and 13.

The Examiner has objected to claim 15 as being in improper form. As noted above, claim 15 has been canceled, thereby obviating further objection.

Additionally, the Examiner has indicated that claims 12-14 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph; Applicant takes this opportunity to express Applicant's appreciation for such indication.

As shown in the above listing of claims, Applicant has amended Applicant's claims 12 and 13 with respect to the Examiner's rejection to

include the step of, "delivering the verification sheet to the recipient together with or separately from the article." Such amendment is supported at least at pages 3-5 and 13 of Applicant's specification. Claim 14 depends from claim 13, and thus includes the above clarification. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 12-14 be withdrawn.

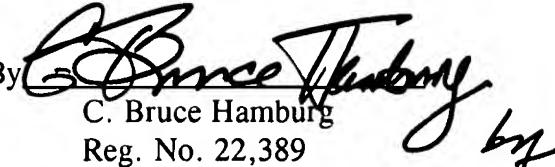
Claims 12 and 13 have been further clarified as shown above; whereby support therefor is provided at least at page 12 of Applicant's specification.

No fee is believed due. If there is any fee due the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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